

From: JScrna@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 8:49pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear DOJ,

As an American and knowledgeable computer user, I feel the suit against Microsoft unfounded and should be dismissed. This issue originally began due to MS competing with Netscape at a time when Netscape had a 90+% monopoly in the internet browser business and was charging \$60 dollars for the Netscape and you had to pay a subscription. Began competing with Netscape and gave away its browser to the consumer. The American consumer benefited by reducing prices and both Netscape and MS now give away their browsers to the consumer.

As for as MS forcing consumers to use Internet Explorer. Nothing could be farther from the truth. I used Netscape prior to IE and used it after I obtained IE. I even paid Netscape for their software and subscriptions after obtaining the free IE. At no time has Windows or IE prevented me from using Netscape. In fact you can load both browsers on any IBM compatible computer and run them independent of each other and run multiple windows of each simultaneously. If the computer consumer failed to realize this, its not MS's fault.

MS may be a shrewed competitor, but that is what America is about. If you look at the cost of computers, MS's software and computer software in general I cannot fathom how anyone can say MS has hurt business or the consumer. If you want to look into a monopoly, check Apple out. Apple never opened their operating system to the public, where MS did.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Smith

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